

BEST OLD LINE FIRE INSURANCE

Baker Bros. Agency

CLOVIS, NEW MEXICO.

The Clovis News

ABSTRACTS OF TITLE

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C. C. BAKER, Mgr.

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DISTRICT COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR WEEK

Rogers Not Guilty. Wolfenbarger Sentenced. Check Forgers Sentenced. Court Adjourned.

District Court adjourned Wednesday after having been in continuous session since February 8th. Since our last week's report of the court proceedings, Frank Rodgers, of Melrose, was tried on Friday for rape and acquitted. The complaining witness, who is said to be a young woman of unsound mind told her story, which if no other testimony had been submitted would doubtless have resulted in his conviction, but the defendant denied the charge absolutely and substantiated his testimony by giving dates and places of his presence at the time of the alleged occurrence. Dean Wolfenbarger, who was charged with an assault with a bottle on the person of a man named Taylor, was found guilty and the court, after admonishing the defendant to his crime and his life, sentenced him to a period of twelve months, but after asking the defendant if he had anything to say before putting the sentence into execution, in which the defendant stated that after he got out of this trouble, he would lead a better life, changed the sentence to ten months. That the court was pleased with this remark was very evident and the court offered his assistance to any man that would help him to carry this effort into a successful determination. Wolfenbarger took an appeal to the supreme court and was released on bond. Taylor is a cook and is alleged to have been drinking and abusive at the time of the trouble. Wolfenbarger has a large family of small children and has the sympathy of all who know him.

Having disposed of all the jury cases, the court discharged the petit jury Tuesday afternoon. All records for quick justice in this section of the state and no doubt in the state of New Mexico were broken, when the two check forgers, who were arrested Wednesday morning within thirty minutes after committing the crime, were arranged, entered a plea of guilty and sentenced to a year in the state penitentiary all the same day and went on their way

to that institution within twenty-four hours after the commission of the crime.

John Johnsey, who was also serving a sentence in the county jail for 12 months for forging checks, was also taken to the penitentiary, the court having set aside the suspended sentence and put the original sentence into effect and ordered him transferred to the penitentiary for safe keeping. While in jail one of the two check forgers who feigned illness, which worked so effectively in Roosevelt County, almost succeeded in making an escape by removing the pins in the door latches, but the timely arrival of the keeper foiled the plan.

Taylor Sentenced.

Herschel Taylor, who was acquitted of the charge of the killing of Arthur Brittain and who was re-arrested on the charges of carrying concealed weapons and gambling, was arraigned and entered a plea of guilty. The court sentenced him to a term of six months on the weapon charge but suspended the last sentence, of three months providing he would leave the county within twenty-four hours after the expiration of the sentence in the first case. One of the strongest admonitions ever given by a court in this district was directed to the defendant in the murder case. Through the courtesy of Mrs. Marie Baldy, stenographer, the News obtained a copy of this admonition but for reason of lack of space at this time, we are unable to publish it this week and it will appear in next week's issue.

Much interest is being manifested in the popular story, the Trey O' Hearts. Read about it in the Clovis News. One installment is shown every Friday night at the Lyceum.

W. C. Zerwer, County Clerk, returned Wednesday from Ennes, Texas where he went in response to a message announcing the death of his father which occurred Friday.

Check Forgers Caught

Two men giving the names of Jack Thompson and Elmer Biggs were arrested by officers Moye and Ervine Wednesday morning as they were boarding a west bound train after having passed one forged check on H. Bell and attempting to pass another on the Mandell Clothing Company only a short time before. The check given Bell was for \$48.00 and was signed "Williams" and the one offered at Mandell's was for \$71.00 and was signed by D. W. Rork. Both checks were drawn on the Elida Bank with whom Mr. Moye got into immediate communication which revealed the fact that they were forgeries. Advices from Portales state that the men were first arrested at Elida and taken to the Portales jail where they feigned illness and that the Portales authorities falling ready victims to their con games, gave them money with which to leave the state, rather than bury them at the county expense. Their plan worked so well at Portales that they tried the trick at the next stop which was Clovis, but here their pet scheme was absolutely foiled and they lingered in the county bastille awaiting their recovery from the effects of too much John Barleycorn before being arranged.

They first tried their game on Mr. Carmack just after he opened the Mandell store. It appears that one would write the checks and the other attempt to cash them. At Mandell's the one holding the check bought freely, without regard to price, color or size, but when he presented the \$71.00 check it was refused because the store did not have the change. The purchaser offered to compromise by getting \$10.00 and calling for the balance later. These actions aroused Carmack's suspicions and he phoned the sheriff. In the meantime he successfully worked the game on H. Bell, buying \$19.00 worth of goods and tendered a \$58.00 check in payment, receiving the \$39 change. Carmack saw them coming out of Bell's with the goods and warned Bell who followed and had them arrested by officer Tom Davenport as they were in the act of boarding the train. Bell got his money and goods, also the hat, which he had sold him a few minutes before, which he took from his head. Upon gaining entrance to the city jail, they were accosted by Herschel Taylor with the

exclamation of Hello Thompson! but Thompson professed not to know him. Taylor says that he knows him and that the two were in jail together in Fort Worth. One of the two told the sheriff that he was willing to plead guilty and take his sentence. He confessed everything to the sheriff and will throw himself upon the mercy of the court.

Texico District Raided.

Sheriff D. L. Moye, acting under instructions from the court raided the "red light" district in Texico Monday night serving warrants on the madam, Ella O'Brien, and inmates Bertha Davis, Etta Vaughn, Jack Brown, Blanch Hardings and Effie Doe. Two charges were made against the proprietor. One for selling liquor without license and the other for vagrancy.

The others arrested were simply charged with vagrancy.

The court fined each \$5 and costs and 30 days in jail, but suspended the jail sentence upon agreement that they leave the county.

Warrants were also issued for the arrest of Otho Murphy, "Slim," A. G. Estes and Wiley Jones, charged with gambling.

Service was not obtained on Jones because he had left the state.

All those arrested were brought in on the midnight train by the officers.

Mrs. Taylor Gets Reward.

Mrs. John F. Taylor, wife of former County Treasurer Taylor has been successful in securing a \$300.00 reward according to a recent decision of Judge Richardson according to a report from Artesia which says: Artesia, N. M. Feb. 19—Judge G. A. Richardson, of Roswell, yesterday rendered a decision giving the \$300 reward offered for information as to the whereabouts of Charles A. Dinsmore to Mrs. Jno. F. Taylor, of Clovis who learned where Dinsmore was while on a visit to her mother at Keene, Texas, shortly after the disappearance of the former secretary of the Artesia Chamber of Commerce. Sheriff Young, of Chavez, had sued for the reward, which has been in the First State bank of Artesia for many months. Mrs. Taylor intervened, and all other claimants for the reward dropped out of the case. Judge Richardson held that Mrs. Taylor furnished the first information regarding Dinsmore and she will receive the \$300.

CONTRACT LET FOR BIG GRAIN ELEVATOR

Site Purchased, Stock Subscribed, Construction Bid Accepted, Work Begins.

The stockholders in the Clovis Improvement Company met at the office of C. E. Dennis Monday and perfected an organization by electing the following named officials:

J. H. Barry, President,
E. P. Burdick, V. President;
C. E. Dennis, Sec. and Treas.

DIRECTORS

E. P. Burdick,
Lester Stone,
Alex Shipley,
W. H. Duckworth,
S. A. Jones

Lots 1 and 2 in block 87, located two blocks west of main street on the Commercial tract were purchased for the elevator site at a consideration of \$500.00.

The bid of the White Star Construction Company of Wichita was accepted as the lowest and on Monday Mr. Burdick wired them to that effect. They have replied that they will begin work at once, probably Thursday or Friday of this week.

The new elevator which will be three stories in height, besides a basement, will be of metal construction of 5,000 bu. capacity. It will be equipped with all the latest machinery and motor power will be used in hoisting and loading the grain.

There will be an extra room for a warehouse and mill and a wagon scale will also be located on the ground which will afford them ample room for enlargement should necessity justify it.

Both Mr. Burdick and Mr. Stone are experienced elevator and mill men and mean business.

A little later if this proves to be a successful wheat growing country, a small flouring mill will also be established.

The following named business men of Clovis indicate their faith in the enterprise to the extent of \$100.00 each in stock taken in the company:

J. H. Barry, C. A. Scheurich, C. E. Dennis, W. H. Duckworth, S. A. Jones, Alex Shipley, G. W. Singleton, A. Mandell, Wilkie Carter, W. I. Luikart, Kendall Dry Goods Company, Alfalfa Lumber Company, Clovis Hardware Company, A. B. Austin, J. R. Walker, Harvey & Morris. Several others will subscribe,

but their subscription has not yet been deposited.

Mr. Burdick will return from Melrose Thursday to superintend the starting of the construction work.

Changes at Luikart's.

Quite a change will be made in the force of clerks at Luikart's big store as soon as Mr. Luikart returns from market next Friday. Ode Cain, who has been with the company for five years or more at this place, has been transferred to Sentinel, Oklahoma, and Jewel Kimberlin, of Sentinel, to Oklahoma City. These changes are merited promotions and although the many friends of Mr. Cain will regret to see him leave Clovis they congratulate him on the promotion. John Luikart, who has been with one of the large dry goods concerns of Portales for several years, will take Mr. Cain's place as head clerk at the store. Harry Baker has also been employed and expects to remain with the firm.

Plenty Moisture.

After raining until about midnight, Friday night, it began snowing and by morning the ground was covered with a few inches of the beautiful. A heavy wet snow fell during the morning hours, but soon after old Sol appeared and it quickly disappeared.

This abundance of moisture at this season of the year will put the ground in fine shape for spring plowing and planting.

It practically insures another bumper crop of winter wheat.

The farmers are rejoicing, the stockmen are rejoicing, everybody wears a smile. It means more prosperity.

Notice.

There will be a meeting of Sudan Grass Raisers Association at the Union Mortgage Company office, Saturday, March 6th, at 2 o'clock, p. m. All members urged to be present.

J. N. Parrett, Chairman.

Judge J. T. McClure left for his home in Roswell Thursday morning.

INVITATION TO LADIES

To call at Mandell's store on Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5 and get Mrs. Nelson to show you the New Spring Suits which have just arrived. This year's styles are the prettiest things ever created in ladies' dresswear and Mrs. Nelson personally selected the handsomest gowns on the St. Louis market. You can take first pick if you desire. They have just arrived.

MANDELL CLOTHING COMPANY